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FM AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6994  
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TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [CU](#) [TI](#)

SUBJECT: TAJIKISTAN'S FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH CUBAN DELEGATION

CLASSIFIED BY: RICHARD HOAGLAND, AMBASSADOR, DUSHANBE,  
TAJIKISTAN, DEPARTMENT OF STATE.  
REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)

[11](#). (U) Foreign Minister Talbak Nazarov met with Deputy Foreign Minister Eumelio Rodriguez on March 17 in Dushanbe along with Cuba's regional Ambassador from Almaty. Ismatullo Nasredinov, Head of the Department of European and American Countries, and Sherali Jononov, Head of Tajikistan's MFA Legal Department, also sat in on the meeting. Nasredinov told DCM and PolOffs this was the first high-level meeting between the two countries.

[12](#). (C) Nasredinov stressed the two sides did not discuss political issues, but focused on economic cooperation. They discussed trade cooperation, tax and customs policies, and signed an economic package of agreements. Cuba did request Tajikistan's support for Cuba in the United Nations. According to Nasredinov, the Tajik officials did not commit their support, and told Cuba Tajikistan would need to consider the interests of its partners, including the United States and Russia. Cuba also offered to sponsor Tajik students on scholarships to Cuba to study medicine and invited the Tajik Minister of Health for a working visit to Cuba.

HOAGLAND